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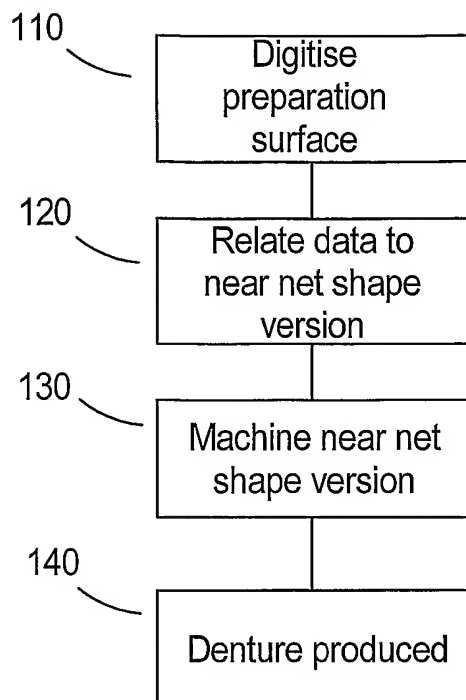
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(54) Title: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A DENTAL PART



(57) Abstract: A method of manufacturing a fixed denture (18,58) is disclosed comprising, identifying the surface of a tooth preparation (110), relating the identified surface to a near net shape version of the denture (120), and altering the near net shape version (130) to produce a denture having an inner profile which substantially replicates the surface of the tooth preparation (140). The inner profile may include an offset (36). The surface of the tooth may be identified by digitising the surface. The near net shape can be altered by machining. The near net shape version may be a pre-formed sintered ceramic shell (20) which may comprise one of a plurality of standard tooth shapes (40) from which the most appropriate shape is chosen or an individually produced tooth shape (42). The fixed denture may be for example a coping (18), bridge (58), implant support abutment.

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